

## Welcome to the Learning Resource Centre!

Newly refurbished towards the end of 2023 The Blue Coat School Library has been renamed as **The Learning Resource Centre (LRC)**. Originally the dining hall for the school this rejuvenated area is made up of two zones:

### The Study Zone

This area provides all students with access to materials to support their studies. 38 desktop computers and 30 laptops are available for students to use before school, at lunchtime and after school for their homework and further subject development.

This area also contains book cases for each of the subjects to be found on the school curriculum with a range of books to support their learning. In addition there are 'A' level subject journals in English, History, Geography, Chemistry, Psychology, Biology, Physics, Politics and Economics available for students to borrow.

This area also contains the following book sections:

Biographies and Auto-Biographies

Hobbies: Cookery, Chess, Gardening

Sport

Liverpool

Wellbeing

Careers

Special Collection Section – books donated to the school by individuals

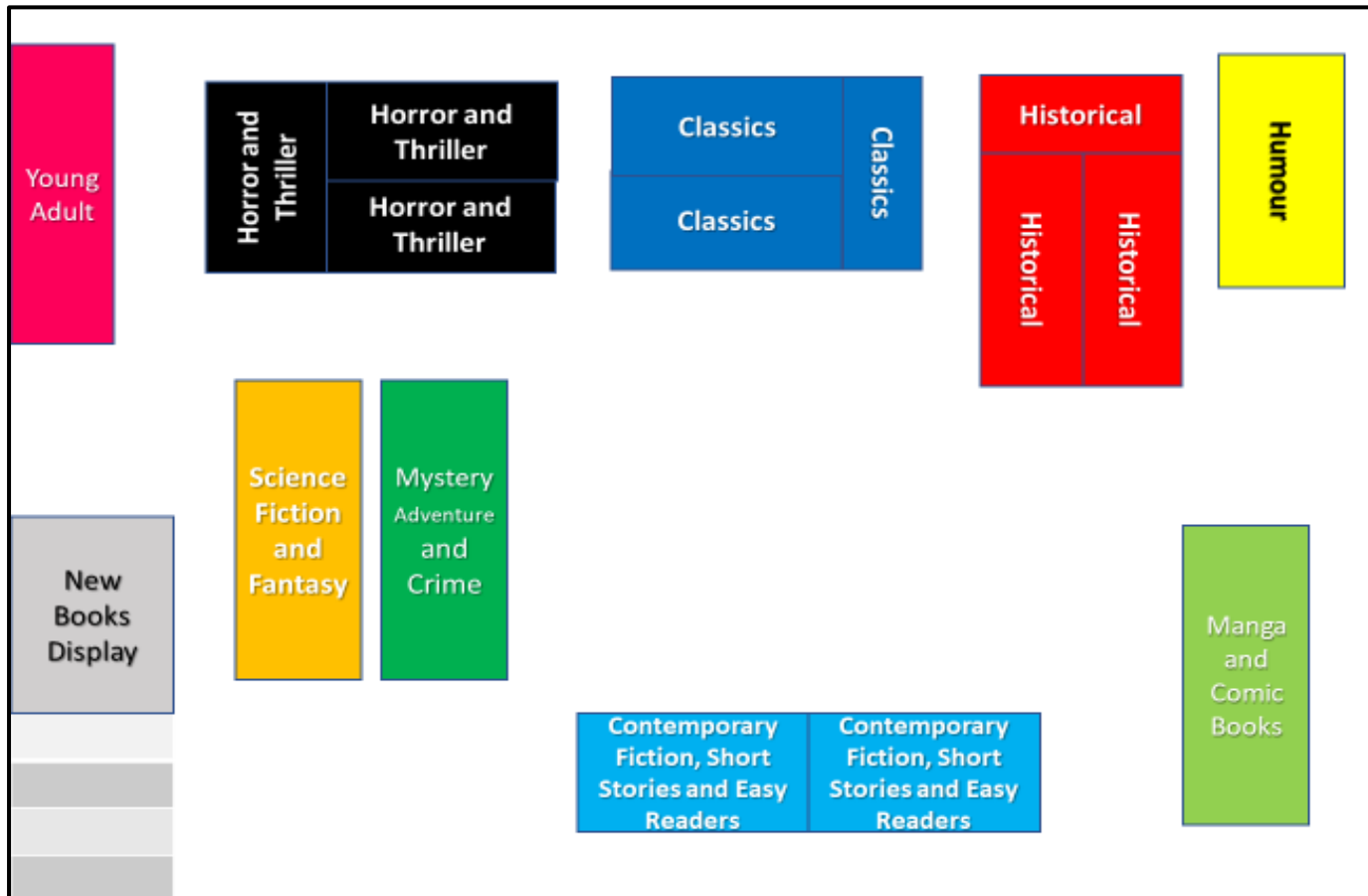
Book collection from the original Blue Coat School



## The Reading for Pleasure Zone

This area, requested by students, houses our fiction collection and a range of comfy seating and tables. The map below shows the different genres of fiction which are to be found there and gives some idea of the layout:

### Map of the Reading for Pleasure Zone



The colours shown above relate to the coloured labels to be found on the spines of all fiction books. Using the coloured labels means that students do not need to know an author or book title to decide on what to read; they can choose by genre and take a look through the relevant bookcase.

### Opening Hours

8.15-8.40am

12.30-1.25pm

3.30-5pm (3.30-4.30pm on a Friday)

During their study periods sixth form students use the LRC for silent study. It is also booked for use by small class groups.

## **Reading and Literacy at the Blue Coat School**

Defined by the [National Literacy Trust](#) as:

‘the ability to read, write, speak and listen in a way that lets us communicate effectively and make sense of the world’

‘literacy’ is recognised as being crucial to the development and well-being of all pupils at The Blue Coat School.

Central to this development is reading. According to [OFSTED](#):

‘Reading is the gateway to learning. It is the key to pupils’ future academic achievement and well-being.’

At The Blue Coat School we believe that it is the responsibility of all members of the community to help and support our pupils in developing their reading and wider literacy skills.

### **School initiatives to encourage reading include:**

**Form Reading Programme** – years 7 and 8 as form groups are given a book to read as a class. Year 9 students can bring in their own book to read during form time. The programme will continue to be rolled out to years 10-13 over the coming years.

**Year 7 Free Books** – each year we subscribe to the ‘Book Buzz’ reading programme which provides each year 7 student with a free book. Organised through the [Book Trust](#) it provides a marvellous way for our students to take some ownership of their choice of reading material.

**Summer Reading Challenge** – Each summer The Blue Coat School holds a summer reading challenge, open to all members of the school community. This involves reading a set number of books over the summer with prizes awarded in the autumn term.

**Celebration of specific reading events throughout the year** – World Book Day, National Poetry Day, Harry Potter Day etc These events are advertised on Teams and are supplemented by extracts for students to read about events throughout the year such as The Chinese New Year, St George’s Day etc

The development of a reading community at The Blue Coat School will be achieved through a range of activities and approaches.

Reading of a range and all types of media will be encouraged in students through:

- Form time reading as a class (see above)
- Reading to be promoted across all subjects in lessons and for homework to extend learning
- Reading challenges to encourage pupils to read a wider range of materials
- The celebration of reading for pleasure by all members of the school community through the sharing of reading experiences
- Participation in local, national and international reading events such as World Book Day
- Promotion of reading for pleasure as an element in emotional and mental well-being

- Provision of newspapers in the Learning Resource Centre including 'The Week Junior' on a weekly basis
- Reading puzzles available in the Learning Resource Centre

Wider Literacy initiatives include:

LAMDA Public Speaking and performance Exams – organised by Mr Britain, Head of English

Writing competitions – organised by Mr Martin, English department